

Notice of Allowability

Application No. .

10/802,501

Examiner

Neil Turk

Applicant(s)

YERAZUNIS, WILLIAM S.

Art Unit

1743

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed on 3/17/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-39.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/17/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20060928.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dirk Brinkman on September 28th, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 4, 35, and 36 have been amended as follows:

Claim 4 will now recite:

The light sensor of claim 1, further comprising:

means for selectively driving a second subset of the set of light emitting diodes in a forward bias to emit light at the corresponding wavelengths, while driving the first subset of light emitting diodes in the reverse bias so that the incident light is emitted by the second subset of light emitting diodes is detected by the first subset of light emitting diodes.

Claim 35 should be amended as follows:

In line 4 of claim 35 the claim recites, "different that one other wavelength..." Please replace "that" with "than".

Art Unit: 1743

Claim 36 will now recite:

The method of claim 33, further comprising:

selectively driving a second subset of the set of light emitting diodes in a forward bias to emit light at the corresponding wavelengths, while driving the first subset of light emitting diodes in the reverse bias so that the incident light is emitted by the second subset of light emitting diodes is detected by the first subset of light emitting diodes.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-39 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not teach or fairly suggest the presently claimed light sensor with a microcontroller comprising a plurality of pairs of I/O pins connected to corresponding light emitting diodes, in which a first subset of light emitting diodes are driven in a reverse bias so as to charge a capacitance of the first subset of light emitting diodes and measuring a time for the capacitance of each of the first subset of light emitting diodes to discharge due to photocurrent induced by incident light on the first subset of light emitting diodes.

The prior art of record teaches the use of light emitting diodes in both forward and reverse bias as emitters and detectors respectively, but the prior art of record relies on an amplifier and A/D converter, which does not read on the claimed subject matter discussed above.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure as background information related to applicant's field of endeavor.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Neil Turk whose telephone number is 571-272-8914. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jill Warden can be reached on 571-272-1267. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1743

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NT


Jill Warden
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700